

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LANSING

MICHIGAN Education

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

March 23, 2006

The Michigan Department of Education and the Taiwanese Ministry of Education have formalized an agreement by which up to 15 experienced and newly certified Michigan teachers will be given the opportunity to study and teach in Taiwanese schools for a full academic year. The Taiwan government will provide Michigan's teachers with orientation training, housing arrangements, and wages comparable to their current salaries.

Each participating Michigan teacher will be paired with a Taiwanese classroom teacher. In addition to providing English language instruction, the Michigan teachers will work with Taiwanese educators to develop curriculum, prepare lesson plans and teaching materials, conduct classes, and evaluate student progress. This partnership will offer a wide range of benefits to all involved:

- Teachers will benefit from the professional development that results from the exchange of instructional practices and strategies between Michigan and Taiwan.
- Students from both nations will gain greater knowledge, appreciation, and understanding of one another's culture, language, history, interests, and lifestyle.
- Michigan and Taiwan both will benefit from the expanded communication, collaboration, and cooperation that will result from this agreement.

With the Memorandum of Understanding having been signed by both parties, the Michigan Department of Education will begin forming a selection committee that will accept applicants for these teaching opportunities immediately. Michigan teachers who are interested in the program should contact Krista D. Ried at 517-373-0699 or via e-mail at riedk@mi.gov.



What is the Teaching in Taiwan program?

This program provides Michigan elementary teachers the opportunity to teach English to students in Taiwan.



Who is eligible to participate?

Any certified Michigan elementary teacher may apply to participate in this program.

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A How does this experience effect Michigan's new teacher induction & mentoring program?

In order to provide adequate support for new classroom teachers, upon return to a Michigan school, administration should provide the full three-year induction program.

How do I apply for the program?

To apply for the Teaching in Taiwan program, you'll need to complete and submit a brief application package. You can get a copy of this application package by e-mailing Krista D. Ried at riedk@mi.gov. All applications must be received by May 19, 2006.

How many Michigan teachers will be accepted for the program?

Each year, a selection committee will choose 6-15 Michigan teachers to participate.

$\frac{4}{1}$ If I am selected, how long will I be in Taiwan?

All teachers selected to participate in this program will sign an 11-month contract to teach in Taiwan. This contract runs from August to July.

What would my responsibilities be in Taiwan?

Each participating Michigan teacher will be paired with a Taiwanese classroom teacher. In addition to providing English language instruction, the Michigan teachers will work with Taiwanese educators to develop curriculum, prepare lesson plans and teaching materials, conduct classes, and evaluate student progress.

How will I be compensated for my work in Taiwan?

In addition to your salary, the Taiwanese government will provide Michigan teachers with housing arrangements. Salaries will be dependent on teaching experience and level of education, according to the following schedule. (The conversion to US dollars is based on the exchange rate as of March 10, 2006.)

Monthly Salary: Holders of doctoral degrees: NT \$70,895~88,755

= US \$2,183-2,733

Holders of master's degrees: NT \$67,925~84,290

= US \$2,091 - 2,595

Holders of bachelor's degrees: NT \$60,890~75,770

= US \$1,875 - 2,333



The Taiwanese government will provide each teacher with two (2) round-trip plane tickets to Taiwan for him/herself and a family member, if applicable.

 $oldsymbol{A}$ What kind of documentation will I need to travel to and work in Taiwan?

You will need a current passport, visa, and work permit. The Ministry of Education will assist participating teachers in applying for a visa and work permit. However, if you are interested in applying for the Teaching in Taiwan program, you may want to consider applying for your passport now, so that it will be ready when you need it. It can take several weeks to receive a passport once you have submitted your documentation. Further information concerning additional documentation will be provided to those teachers selected to participate.

A How will my participation affect the accumulation of years towards retirement? Contact the Office of Retirement Services- Public Schools Employees Retirement System for information regarding "Sabbatical Leave".

A Who should I contact for more information about the Teaching in Taiwan program? Contact Krista D. Ried at the Michigan Department of Education with any additional questions you have. You can reach her at 517-373-0699 or riedk@mi.gov